



## ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY INFORMATION THROUGH LIBRARY COLLABORATION

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### **Report of the Committee of Library Directors (CLD) to the Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC) Board**

It gives me great pleasure to report on activities for the period November 2019 to July 2020.

**Meetings.** Two meetings of the CLD were held in 2020, up to July.

**The impact of the national lockdown on library services.** All four institutions showed a huge responsiveness and an enormous ability to adapt to the changed circumstances in a very short space of time. Established online services such as training, continued and were expanded, and other services developed with a lot of creativity from the libraries' side. However, the mutual borrowing of physical material, the regular van service between the institutions, and the access to libraries by clients from other CHELiN institutions have been suspended during lockdown.

**Website.** A CHELiN website has been developed, hosted by Stellenbosch University. All institutions will contribute to the content. The link has been provided to CHEC, for inclusion on their website.

**Updated Reciprocal Access and Borrowing Agreement.** The updated agreement has been approved by the CHEC Board at their meeting of 20 April 2020.

**Leganto course reading system.** UCT and SU have secured funding for this comprehensive, structured reading list system in support of e-learning, for implementation later in 2020. Discussions towards a joint purchase by CHELiN institutions were abandoned once it became clear that the needs and priorities of institutions for a product like this varied and that a joint purchase would have little financial benefit.

**ilifu Research Data Management (RDM) and Open Science.** The project has come to a close, apart from the CoreTrust Seal Digital Repository certification for Figshare installations, for which the submission has been extended to March 2021.

**Training initiatives.** The need for a NACO training course for metadata librarians / cataloguers in the Western Cape was established in 2019 and funding from CHEC was secured, for which the CHELiN CLD thanks CHEC. The course will be organised and hosted by SU. However, due to the national lockdown, the course has been postponed to 2021 and an extension on the use of the funds has been requested.

**Shared Regional Library Collection Management.** After considering the needs of the four institutions, it was decided that they did not warrant the continuation of the project in the immediate future. The project was suspended and the task team disbanded for the time being. It may be reconstituted in a year or more, with the specific brief of looking at models for cooperative storage, which may either be on- or off-site. The need to preserve of our joint printed collections will form an important part of the brief.

Ms Ellen R Tise  
Chair, CHELiN Committee of Library Directors

5 August 2020